

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 32-36 are pending in the above-identified application. Claims 37-41 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 32-36 are amended, by the present amendment. Applicants respectfully submit that support for amended claims 32-36 is self-evident from the originally-filed disclosure, including Figure 5 ("STREAM PACK") and Figure 10 ("COPYRIGHT STATE OF PACKET"). Thus, no new subject matter is added by the present amendment.

The Office Action rejected claims 32-41 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Lenihan et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,169,843; hereinafter "Lenihan") in view of Yamauchi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,047,103; hereinafter "Yamauchi").

Regarding the rejection of claims 37-41, these claims are canceled by the foregoing amendment and, thus, the rejection of the same is rendered moot.

Regarding amended claims 32-36, Lenihan and Yamauchi do not teach or suggest these claims. For example, each of amended claims 32-36 recites, among other features:

...said management information includes an area configured to store copy management information...

...the at least one stream data unit includes information indicating a copyright state of the information of the transport stream packet.

Referring to the non-limiting example shown in Applicants' Figure 15, SOB General Information SOB_GI includes copy management information in SOB_TY.¹ Referring to the non-limiting example shown in Applicants' Figure 10, each stream pack includes a header extension, which includes information indicating the copyright state of the corresponding data packet (COPYRIGHT STATE OF PACKET).² In this way, information relating to copy

¹ Applicants' specification at p. 86, line 26 – p. 87, line 2.

² Applicants' specification at Figures 10(d) and 10(e).

protection is stored in both the management area (SOB_TY) and in the data area (COPYRIGHT STATE OF PACKET).

Lenihan discloses a data structure for MPEG-2, in which a PES packet (Fig. 1A) includes multiple transport packets (Fig. 1B). When a transport packet is to be stored, an arrival timestamp (ATS) is generated for the transport packet, and both the transport packet and the corresponding ATS are stored together.³

As correctly acknowledged on page 3 of the Office Action, Lenihan “fails to particularly disclose copy management data, which is a form of management data.” Therefore, Lenihan fails to disclose “said management information includes an area configured to store copy management information,” as recited in each of amended claims 32-36. Further, Applicants note that Lenihan fails to disclose “the at least one stream data unit includes information indicating a copyright state of the information of the transport stream packet,” as recited in each of amended claims 32-36.

In addition, Lenihan does not disclose “at least one of the stream data units includes a header containing time-related information with respect to the transport stream packet,” as recited in amended claims 32-36. Each PES packet described in Lenihan includes a PTS and a DTS (see, e.g., col. 5, lines 20-39), but the PTS and the DTS do not provide time-related information with respect to any of the transport packets included in the PES packet. By contrast, the PTS and the DTS appear to provide time-related information associated only with the PES packet as one stream unit.

The Office Action turns to the Yamauchi to remedy the deficiencies of Lenihan with respect to claims 32-36.

³ Lenihan at col. 7, lines 34-38.

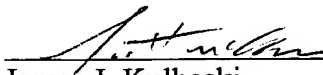
Yamauchi depicts a data structure including copy generation management system (CGMS) data, which indicates whether copying of a sector of user data is permitted.⁴ Referring to Fig. 2 of Yamauchi, the CGMS data is stored in a data area of a recording medium. However, Yamauchi does not disclose any copy management information in a management area of the recording medium. Specifically, Yamauchi fails to teach "said management information includes an area configured to store copy management information," as recited in each of amended claims 32-36. Yamauchi also fails to disclose "at least one of the stream data units includes a header containing time-related information with respect to the transport stream packet," as recited in amended claims 32-36. Thus, Yamauchi does not remedy the deficiencies of Lenihan with regards to amended claims 32-36.

As such, Applicants respectfully submit that amended claims 32-36 patentably define over Lenihan and Yamauchi. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 32-36 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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⁴ Yamauchi at Fig. 2 and at col. 13, lines 40-48.